Claims

1. A multimedia preview system in a client/server-based network environment for browsing the content of requested multimedia data to be previewed, said content being displayed on a client terminal (1006) accessing a multimedia server (1002) which holds said multimedia data,
characterized by
controlling means (602a-c, 800a/b, 900, 1404a-c, 1600) for adapting the speed of browsing and/or the abstraction level of presentation in text and/or image depending on type and/or frequency of user commands instructing the multimedia preview system (1000) to browse either quicker or slower through the content of said multimedia data such that the degree of presented details is the higher the lower the speed of presentation and vice versa.

2. A multimedia preview system according to claim 1, characterized in that
said multimedia preview system (1000) is realized as a video-on-demand system with an additional video browsing functionality for varying the speed and detail level of presentation depending on type and/or frequency of user commands instructing the multimedia preview system (1000) change the speed of browsing such that said detail level is the higher the lower the speed of presentation and vice versa.

3. A multimedia preview system according to claims 1 or 2, characterized in that
said controlling means (602a-c, 800a/b, 900, 1404a-c, 1600) comprises a touch-sensitive display (1502) for navigating through the multimedia data to be previewed.

4. A method for browsing the content of multimedia data to be previewed, said content being displayed on a client terminal

(1006) accessing a multimedia server (1002) which holds said multimedia data,
characterized by the steps of

- downloading (S0) said multimedia data from the multimedia server (1002) to said client terminal (1006) via a network link,
- said multimedia server (1002) receiving (S1a) and processing (S1b) user commands demanding a change in the speed of browsing and/or in the abstraction level of presentation, in the following referred to as „representation parameters",
- decomposing (S2) said multimedia data into non-redundant and redundant, less relevant parts,
- adapting (S3) said representation parameters by online filtering out (S3') a certain amount of said redundant, less relevant parts depending on type and/or frequency of said user commands such that the degree of presented details is the higher the lower the speed of presentation and vice versa, and
- displaying (S4) an adapted version of said multimedia data on said client terminal (1006).

5. A method according to claim 4,
characterized by the steps of

- associating (S5a) metadata of any kind allowing users to identify segmented parts of multimedia data to be previewed to said multimedia data and
- synchronizing (S5b) said metadata with said multimedia data.

6. A method according to anyone of the claims 4 or 5,
characterized by
said user commands being movements of a user's finger across a touch-sensitive display (1502) according to claim 3, the

length of the movement path being directly proportional to the speed of browsing and/or the detail level of presentation when displaying said multimedia data.

7. A method according to anyone of the claims 4 or 5, characterized by
said user commands being forces exerted by a user's finger to the surface of a touch-sensitive display (1502) according to claim 3, said force being directly proportional to the speed of browsing and/or the detail level of presentation when displaying said multimedia data.

8. A method according to anyone of the claims 4 or 5, characterized by
said user commands being the duration of forces exerted by a user's finger to the surface of a touch-sensitive display (1502) according to claim 3, said duration being directly proportional to the speed of browsing and/or the detail level of presentation when displaying said multimedia data.

AMENDED CLAIMS
[received by the International Bureau on 23 May 2005 (23.05.2005);
original claims 1-8 replaced by new claims 1-8 (3 pages)]

1. A multimedia preview system in a client/server-based network environment for browsing the content of requested multimedia data to be previewed, said content being displayed on a client terminal (1006) accessing a multimedia server (1002) which holds said multimedia data,
characterized by
controlling means (602a-c, 800a/b, 900, 1404a-c, 1600) for adapting the speed of browsing and/or the detail level of presentation in text and/or image depending on type and/or frequency of user commands instructing the multimedia preview system (1000) to browse either quicker or slower through the content of said multimedia data such that the degree of presented details is the higher the lower the speed of presentation and vice versa.

2. A multimedia preview system according to claim 1, characterized in that
said multimedia preview system (1000) is realized as a video-on-demand system with an additional video browsing functionality for varying the speed and detail level of presentation depending on type and/or frequency of user commands instructing the multimedia preview system (1000) change the speed of browsing such that said detail level is the higher the lower the speed of presentation and vice versa.

3. A multimedia preview system according to claims 1 or 2, characterized in that
said controlling means (602a-c, 800a/b, 900, 1404a-c, 1600) comprises a touch-sensitive display (1502) for navigating through the multimedia data to be previewed.

4. A method for browsing the content of multimedia data to be previewed, said content being displayed on a client terminal

(1006) accessing a multimedia server (1002) which holds said multimedia data,

characterized by the steps of

- downloading (S0) said multimedia data from the multimedia server (1002) to said client terminal (1006) via a network link,
- said multimedia server (1002) receiving (S1a) and processing (S1b) user commands demanding a change in the speed of browsing and/or in the detail level of presentation, in the following referred to as „representation parameters",
- decomposing (S2) said multimedia data into non-redundant and redundant, less relevant parts,
- adapting (S3) said representation parameters by online filtering out (S3') a certain amount of said redundant, less relevant parts depending on type and/or frequency of said user commands such that the degree of presented details is the higher the lower the speed of presentation and vice versa, and
- displaying (S4) an adapted version of said multimedia data on said client terminal (1006).

5. A method according to claim 4,

characterized by the steps of

- associating (S5a) metadata of any kind allowing users to identify segmented parts of multimedia data to be previewed to said multimedia data and
- synchronizing (S5b) said metadata with said multimedia data.

6. A method according to anyone of the claims 4 or 5,

characterized by

said user commands being movements of a user's finger across a touch-sensitive display (1502) according to claim 3, the length of the movement path being directly proportional to

the speed of browsing and/or the detail level of presentation when displaying said multimedia data.

7. A method according to anyone of the claims 4 or 5, characterized by
said user commands being forces exerted by a user's finger to the surface of a touch-sensitive display (1502) according to claim 3, said force being directly proportional to the speed of browsing and/or the detail level of presentation when displaying said multimedia data.

8. A method according to anyone of the claims 4 or 5, characterized by
said user commands being the duration of forces exerted by a user's finger to the surface of a touch-sensitive display (1502) according to claim 3, said duration being directly proportional to the speed of browsing and/or the detail level of presentation when displaying said multimedia data.